31 AMERICANS REPORTED LOST IN TORPEDOING OF U.S. OIL SHIP: ARMY GENERAL STAFF PREPARING PLANS TO SEND TROOPS TO FRONT; FRENCH GAIN HALF MILE ON 25-MILE FRONT, BENDING SIEGFRIED LINE

THE HERALD

SIEGFRIED LINE BENT HALF MILE BY FRENCH **ALONG 25-MILE FRONT**

Nivelle Seizes Terrain Fronting Laon and Holds Gains Against Repeated Counter Thrusts.

London, April 30.—In a new terrific blow against the center of the Inexperienced Guardsmen Go Siegfried line, the French today burst into the German positions on a twenty-five-mile front and penetrated to a depth ranging from one-half to twothirds of a mile, holding those gains against all counter thrusts.

The terrain that was gained fronts Laon, chief strategic objective of Gen, Nivelle's offensive on the Aisne and in the Champagne.

The French stormed forward on both sides of Mont Carnillet TAKE FORTIFIED TRENCHES.

To the west of this hill, they wrested from the Crown Prince's forces a series of fortified trenches stretching as far south of the village of Reine as Mont Carnillet.

They dislodged the Germans from part of the northern slope, northeast of Mont Haut, as far as the approaches to Moronvilliers-Hauroy road. Immediately after the attack the big guns of both sides began to roar

On the Anglo-German front Teuton counter-attacks between Monchy Le Preux and the Scarpe River were stifled in the British barrage fire. lines on this front remained unaltered at the end of the day. Raid Important Works,

French aviators extensively raided important works behind the German lines, penetrating as far as Colmar, Habaheim and Frescoti, a suburb of the fortress

In aerial battles yesterday, the British bagged ten German machines and drove ten others down in a damaged condition. Pifteen British machines did not re-turn, it is admitted. Berlin's official night builetin tells of a violent artillers bettle on the Alane

and in the Campagne.

Berlin officially announced that the British in Saturday's initial onslaught loss 6,000 in dead and 1,000 in prisoners; that the village of Oppy remained in German hands, and that the forin German hands, and that the gire and been closed. Teutonic aviators can no mans captured forty machine guns and been closed. Teutonic aviators can no destroyed ten "tanks." The entente longer act as range finders for their arrival control of the statement the statement. wenty-three yesterday, the statement added.
Today's British headquarters' state-

ment reported only operations between Monchy-le-Preux and the Scarpe, where the British, taking some prisoners, improved their lines, and a successful raid north of Ypres, nearly fifty miles above the front of the pressure aviation heroes of the war, thus sumfit miles above the front of the pressure aviation heroes of the war, thus sumfit miles above the front of the pressure aviation heroes of the war, thus sumfit miles above the front of the pressure aviation heroes of the war, thus sumfit miles above the front of the pressure aviation heroes of the war, thus sumfit miles above the front of the pressure aviation heroes of the west followed the pressure aviation heroes of the west followed the pressure aviation heroes of the west followed the pressure aviation heroes of the war aviation heroes of the pristing the pressure aviation heroes of the pre ent drive. Here ten prisoners and a France. To a group of Washington news-machine gun were taken.

The French day report told of heavy gun duels all along the Franco-German front and of the repulse of Teuton counter attacks. It reported German air raids on five French fortresses—Dunikik, Nancy, Beifort, Chalons and Epernay. In the two last named places several civilians fell victims to the bombing attacks.

Take the German have acknowledged their inability to regain the offensive. Then there are the Zeppelins: they are fallures," he continued. "Zeppelins are no longer of any military use whatsover except in entirely unprotected regions—of which there are mighty few in Great Britain and France."

Zeppelins are good only for attacks

Pimlico Track Burning;

Baltimore, May 1 (Tuesday),-Fire, apparently of incendiary origin, broke out at 1 o'clock this morning at Pim-Hee race track, where the spring meeting was to open today.

The stables of Tim Donahue, H. W. Sage and G. S. Furle were destroyed.

At least eight horses were burned to death and at 1:30 o'clock this morning it looked like the rest of the staing it looked like the rest of the stables and plant would be saved by wind, the leading aviation specialists of the but they were still endangered.

WASHINGTON PRINCESS ESCAPES.FIRE DANGER

Hohenlohe-Schillingsfurst's Motor Car Demolished by Flames.

Princess Hohenlohe-Schillingsfurst, wife of Prince Alfred Hohenlohe-Schillingsfurst, former secretary of the Austro-Hungarian Embassy here, who was formerly Miss Catherine A. Britten, daugh-

ter of Alex Britten, 1811 Q street north-west, narrowly escaped serious injury by fire yesterday afternoon.

The princess was operating her electric automobile along the Chain Bridge road near St. Phillips Hill bound towards the city when the wires in the vehicle be-came crossed and started a fire. The car was totally destroyed by the

fames.

The princess was speeding along the roadway when she discovered that the floor of the car was becoming uncomfortably warm. Catching the odor of burning rubber she stopped the machine. Investigation showed that a blaze was in progress. The princess and her friends, who had been visiting at the National Service School at Conduit road, leaped from the machine. The party watched the fames demolish the vehicle.

The princess is in the city visiting her father. Her husband is in New York.

MAY END MEATLESS DAYS.

London, April 20.—It is better to let the people of Great Britain eat all the meat they want than to allow the supply of breadstuffs to be exhausted. Capt. Charles Bathurst said so in substance in the house of commons today, speaking for the government. He hinted the rule creating one meatless day a week may be rescinded.

Births, Marriages and Deaths. The Washington Herald is printing daily no-tices of births, marriages, and deaths among the people of Washington.

These notions appear today on page 30.

of Washington, notices appear today on page 10.

about recent munitions plants explo

Plans to Send U.S. Troops Abroad at Once Being Worked Out By Army General Staff; Six Red Cross Units Sail Within 20 Days

SOLDIERS SOON TO JOIN ALLIES

First-May Be on Firing Line Within Month.

The appeal of military members of the French mission in the United States resulted late yesterday in the army general staff receiving orders to work out plans for the immediate sending of an American army to the west front.

The plans, which are only tentative must be passed upon by President Wilson before they are put into operation.

This was learned from high officials of the War Department. That an American force, whose size is as yet undetermined, will be on the fighting libe within thirty days, seemed assured last night. In all probability the men sent first will be part of the National Guard of the States, whose or-

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.

German Aviators Outclassed,

the Air as Well as on Land,

in the air as well as on land. Victory

papermen, Major Rees stated that the Germans have acknowledged their in-

Zeppelins are good only for attac against the civil population, he said,

"American avlators would be wel-

comed." he said. "I hardly think the machines now in use in the United States would be of service, because they

are not fitted for our kind of warfare.

the result of the most skillful work of

Corps Avers.

Balfour Pays Tribute To American Red Cross

Rt. Hon. Arthur Balfour yester-day paid the following tribute to the American Red Cross in a massage sent to Red Cross headquar-

"It needs no words from me to testify that the American Red Cross has already won its spurs by countless works of mercy on the battlefields of many countries.
"By generosity and personal service it has helped the allies in many-fold ways during the seat thirty fold ways during the past thirty months. In the name of wounded in the ranks of the united allies I known I may thank this organiza-tion for the untold benefits received, and I feel sure that under the late developed circumstances its labors of love and pity will only increase and multiply until this war is ended."

U. S. WILL GRANT **BELGIUM A LOAN**

Tiny Nation May Be Advanced \$150,000,000 Despite Her Says Maj. Rees, British Envoy

Lack of Security.

Baron E. De Cartier, Belgian Minister at Washington, yesterday held a long conference with Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo at which it was determined that the stricken Belgian people shall participate in the big loans being WILSON SEEKS given by the United States to her European ailies, despite the fact that Belgium can give practically no security

for the money.

Trearise, officials declared last night that Belgium's powerty is not being taken into account at all, arrangements for the advance of money being made in order to strengthen the arms of the Belgian forces, whether or not the American treasury has to wait for gen-American treasury has to wait for generations for repayment of the loan.

Rene Vivian, former premier of France and head of the French mission here, also held a conference with Secretary McAdoo outlining the needs of the French people. Count Macchi di Cellere, Italian Ambassador at Washington, continued his series of conferences.

May Get \$150,000,000

While no definite arrangement has yet been perfected, it is expected that from the White House that Congress subject of their discussion has not been Belgium will receive a loan of at least must get and set quickly to give the learned.

when they are ready for issuance.

FRENCH TOUR PLANS READY

West, Going First Direct-

The French Commission will leave program. Washington next Thursday for the West, soing directly to Chicago. From Chicago, the commission will go to Kansas City. St. Louis and Springfield, Ill. At Springfield the commission will see Lincoln's tomb. coln's tomb.

The State Department last night an-

nounced that the commission's tour (Bx the International News Service.) would cover the briefest possible time. Philadelphia, April 30.—Wage increases

"Many invitations were extended from all parts of the country, and the commission expressed a desire to accept many of them," the State Department announced, "But because of the slimited time at their disposal and the large a joint conference of miners and operators starting two weeks ago amount of tork to be done in Washington, it was necessary to confine their absence from Washington to the briefest possible time, and to arrange their sched-possible time, and to the day is so great that panies their day is so great that panies. Hungary to prevent news of the true situation there from reaching outside nations. Official information to this effect who originally demanded a flat 32-1-3 has been received by the State Department. The department late year-day is accepted to the intervence of miners, who originally demanded a flat 32-1-3 has been received by the State Department of State Possible time, and to the countries are conference of miners, and to the true day is so great that pa Rome, April 30.—Neutral diplomatic sources here today again received reports from Greece that King Constantine is about to abdicate. It was said the Greek monarch, after renouncing his throne, would go to Denmark via Italy.

possible time, and to arrange their schedule accepted compromises outered by the more operators. The only demand made by the miners and not granted in whole or in part was that relating to car pushing, which government. They are to be the official the numers wented to abolish. This was dropped during the conference.

BASE HOSPITALS READY TO LEAVE

First Groups Will Start for France in Ten Days—To Be Placed Near Front.

The American Red Cross will furnish the first army organization which will be sent to European battlefields. At the request of the British commission, six base hospitals organized by the Red Cross for the United States army have been or- cluded: dered to active duty abroad. It is un-derstood they will serve in France.

The hospital units will be sent as quickly as they can be mustered into the United States service and their milthe base hospitals to go will be the

The base hospitals to go will be the second, fourth, fifth, tenth, twelfth and twenty-first. They will take charge of hospitals already in operation. They will not wait for equipment other than some special surgical instruments.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.

31 AMERICANS DIE WHEN "SUB" SINKS U. S. OIL STEAMER

Commander of Naval Guard and 11 Members of Naval Crew Aboard Vacuum Believed Lost.

New York, April 30.-Thirty-one American lives are believed to have been lost when the armed American oil-carrying steamship Vacuum was torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the north coast of Ireland last Saturday while en route from a British to an American port

Newspaper dispatches from London and cables advices to the ship's owners, the Vacuum Oil Company of New York, were somewhat conflicting, service for the medical department of but late tonight it seemed established beyond doubt that the toll of life in-

PROBABLE TOLL OF LIFE.

The Vacuum's skipper, Capt. S. S. Harris, of New York; Twenty members of his crew

The commander of the United States naval guard aboard the Vacuum, Lieut. Clarence Crase Thomas, a Californian.

Eleven members of his naval crew.

The Vacuum had two lifeboats to which those aboard took while the vessel was sinking. Boat No. 1 contained those believed drowned. Boat No. 2 has been landed. It contained: The Vacuum's chief officer, thirteen mem bers of the ship's crew and four naval gunners.

British Mission Will Remain 10 Days More Than Planned

SHIP CONTROL

Administration Will Push Its: Plans to Provide Tonnage for Carrying Supplies.

American cargo ships must be made

President Wilson and his advisers last night had reached this conclusion after preliminary conferences with naval experts of the British and French missions.

American shipping experts, in reports

of the capacity of shipyards in the Unit-ed States, declared yesterday that all of the principal plants of the nation must operate their yards on a double shift basis to meet the government's needs. Shipbuilders already have assured national defense chiefs that they will adopt the most heroic methods to meet the.

I'nited States, Great Britain and France. it was practically certain that every ounce of strength that the shipping in-dustry of the nation can muster will be used to develop the merchant marine

\$26,000,000 RAISE GRANTED MINERS

trict Will Benefit.

would cover the briefest possible time. In order that its members may return to Washington at an early date to take up the important work before it.

"Many invitations were extended from all parts of the country, and the commission expressed a desire to accent many."

Philadelphia, April 20.—Wage increases gary, and demonstrations in lawy the entente allies are to be held in Sweden.

The fear of the governments of the central powers of the strikes to begin to-day is so great that painstaking efforts have been made in Germany and Austria-

Discussion of the Serious Economic and Industrial Situ-Cause of Delay.

pected, it was learned last night

The political potentialities were talked over confidentially by President Wilson and Foreign Minister Balfour at a dinner return trip to America last at the White House last night. The week after the Mongolia's Administration leaders received word at the White House last night. The

mediate action.

With the prospect that manipulators of food supplies and prices will have some of their excess profits curtailed, a lobby of food magnates has sprung up almost overnight, in an attempt to thwart the food program.

To one group of such men, representing the big butter, egg and poultry interests of the West and Middle West. Secretary Houston made his position plain.

As the spokesmen of these interests, they called up the secretary to gain some measure of resassivence of the war to make they called up the secretary to gain some measure of resassivence of the war to make they can pay for the war bonds when they can pay for the secretary with the president and Mr. Balfour walked into the building togeth-difficulties, developed problems of far more serious moment than those which hitherto have confronted government and the Panifour and Mr. Balfour walked into the building in he shipping difficulties, developed problems of far more serious moment than those which hitherto have con ers, announced that they would re-ing 1 in Washington ten days longer than land.

opin in official circles A crisis i expected to be reached today in Germany—and, indeed, in Austria-Hungar as well—that may result in the over throw of the government.

government's contracts.

Following the informal meetings hetween the shipping authorities of the United States. Great Britain and France in Survey of known accounts the sany survey accounts the sany survey of k any survey of known accuracy of the con-ditions there to be made by officials here. Further evidence was received by the State Departfent that a strong national effort will be made by Socialists in Germany during the general strikes, which have been called for today, to overflow the Imperial government and declare republic. Reports, which were not may public, were received yesterday from American diplomats in close touch with Germany.

Germany Shields Facts The situation in Austria and in Swe

den, which has been markedly pro-German, is just as serious. General strikes have been ordered in Austria-Hun-Philadelphia, April 30.—Wage increases gary, and demonstrations in favor of the entente allies are to be held in

the report that for the preceding six days German subjects had not been permitted to leave Germany for Holland. This measure, it is stated, was intended to prevent the spread of information concern-

Ing the strikes in Germany."
It was officially admitted yesterday that
"the top may blow off in Germany within a very short while." The true situation there is unknown in America.

ALLIES BOMBARD ZEEBRUGGE.

Amsterdam, April 30. - Allied airmen bombarded Zeebrugge, the German naval base in Belgium, on Sunday, says a dis-patch to this city today. The aviators dropped many projectiles despits violent fire against them from German high-angle guns. It is learned that during the preceding air attack two harbor walls at Zeebrugge were smashed by bombs.

Altogether eight American lives are

ation in Germany Probable at the first American officer to be killed in the first American officer to be killed in the first American of his duty as arms a guardian of a peaceful American

can merchantman.

The Vacuum was sent to the bottom just nine days after another Americas velopments connected with the war lap of her voyage to a British port, against Germany that may develop short- had drawn the first blood in the war ly will keep the British commission in with Germany. One of the Mongolia's consultation with officials of this government for ten days longer than was extack the merchantman

Left England Thursday

The Vacuum left a British port for he The French and Italian diplomats showed Mr. McAdoo what the needs of their nations are and impressed upon him the necessity for haste in coming to the relief of these nations.

The Federal Reserve Board vesterdar.

The Federal Reserve Board vesterdar.

The President and Mr. Balfour were alone together from 7 o'clock until 10:30, when they left the White House to attend an official reception at the Panich Minds.

Yesterday's conference as the conference as th ing Capt. Harris was thirty-five

r. After the reception. President Wilon returned to the White House alone.

Situation in Germany.

Arrangements were made late yesterday
or the head of the British mission in Shipping circles here said today.

Walker McKay, now believed to be in Maine, had obtained relief for this through the U-boat-infested waters, tak ing large cargoes of barrel oil to Eng-

That the serious economic and indus-ial situation in Germany is the cause the change in plans is the general Oil Company, a California concern. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.

STOCK EXCHANGE SAVED FROM TEUTON BOMBERS

Detectives Arrest Two Germans of Way to Wall Street. (By the International News Service.)

New York, April 30.—After three weeks of detective work by the members of Captain Tunney's bomb squad, during captain tunneys bomb squag, during which time the quarry was ahadowed day and night, two Germans were arrested tonight while on their way to blow up the Stock Exchange with a high. explosive bomb. The missile was factured in the chemical laboratory of Rooseveit Hospital.

The men arrested are Wolf S. Hirsch

The men arrested are woll 8. Hirson, 28. a native of Kiel, Germany, employed as an assistant to the Harriman Research Laboratory at the hospital, and George Meyringer, 42. a native of Regens. George Meyringer, a. a hauve or Regens-berg. Germany. employed as a general helper in the Hospital kitchen. The men came to this country in July, 1914, Just before the outbreak of the European

WAR CHECK TO MRS. M'ADOO.

Treasury Printers Send \$1,000 to President's Daughter for Red Cross,

Mrs. William Gibbs McAdoo, daughter of President Wilson and wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, as representative of the Red Cross, will receive a tive of the Red Cross. will receive a certified check for \$1.000 this morning as a testimonial of the patriotism of the Flate Printer's Union No. 2, which is made up of the several thousand men employed in the Bureau of Engraving and Frinting. a branch of the Treasury. The check will be sent by Mrs. McAdoo to the American Red Cross Society.

Edward E. Harding 1345 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W. "Watch the Windows."

The German aviators no longer attempt to take the offensive in France. They are outnumbered, and their machines were not so efficient as ours. "The Germans, having admitted their inferiority in the air, have adopted light, the dairy and poultry product exchanges included, and that the government would use every power the Congress may vest in it to throttle speculation in any form ncompatible with the nation's interest swift machines for defensive work only They never attempt to reconnoiter over our lines or to find ranges for their ar-tillery. That lessens the efficiency of during the war.

"Our machines are almost as swift our machines are almost as swift as those of the Germans, and in ours we carry two guns, one to be operated by the observer and one by the pilot. Also, we drop bombs over the enemy lines, which the Germans do not attempt any more. They don't dare to cross our

"Futhermore, the German pilots are classed as chauffeurs, and not as officers In case of a life battle they will run away nearly every time. "The most fighting at present is done

at 20,000 feet altitude. at 20,000 feet altitude.

"We have three different planes of elevation for aviators. The larger machines, carrying two guns and a number of bombs, stay about 6,000 feet up. These machines are actually part of the artillery forces.
"Then, the lighter machines, although

they are heavy fighters, travel at about 10,000 feet. The still lighter machines, which are used as a sort of aerial patrol and carry only one gun each, customárily fly at 20,000 feet elevation. These are the machines that are doing most of the fighting at present."

Letters Found on Dead Man Tell of Plot Against Wilson

Trenton, N. J., April 30.—Coroner Bray, of Mercer County, declared today that letters had been found in the pockets of Charles C. Mueller, of Indianapolis, Ind., who dropped dead here, indicating that plots existed against the lives of a number of prominent statesmen.

It was declared that the names of President Wilson, former President Test.

President Wilson, former President Taft, former President Roosevelt and United States Senator Taggart were mentioned in the letters. A loaded revolver was found in the dead man's pocket along with a number of newspaper clippings

Teutons on the Defensive in FOOD BARONS DEFY WILSON

Head of the Royal Flying Organize Lobby to Thwart (By the International News Service) Administration's Plan to The "eyes of the German army" have Control Prices.

> Alarmed at the sensational jump in the prices of various staple commodities, inluenced chiefly, it is believed, by war conditions, Secretary Houston and his aides last night mapped out a program for a fight to jam through Congress at the earliest possible moment, legislation which the President has sanctioned, to

clothe the government with absolute power to control and fix prices of food-stuffs. Leaders at both sides of the Capitol Leaders at both sides of the Capitol previously gave the President and members of his Cabinet assurance that the authorization desired would be given, but parliamentary maneuvering has thrown obstacles in the way of this part of the war program. Secretary Houston and the experts associated with him will go to the Capitol today and insist upon im-

Racing Stables Destroyed

Himore, May 1 (Tuesday).—Fire,

Rees.

Encouragement of the plans of the Council of National Defense to send several units of American aviators to France immediately was given by Major

The experts associated with him will go to the Capitol today and insist upon immediate action.

With the prospect that manipulators of food supplies and prices will be considered.

As the spokesmen of these interests, they called up the secretary to gain some measure of reassurance as to the effect the proposed legislation would have upon that lines of business. their lines of business.

The only assurance they got was the statement that the administration views with deep suspicion the activities on some of the leading exchanges of the countr

GET WRONG PRINCESS: THIS ONE STRAIGHT

Ellis Island Officials Thought They Were Vaking Ex-Convict.

New York, April 30.-There is more than New York, April 39.—There is more than one Princess Radziwill, and immigration officials here admitted today that they probably had arrested the wrong one. Mrs. Catherine Kolb, formerly the wife of Prince Radziwill, was released from Prince Radziwill, was released from the control of the co

Ellis Island and will be permitted to lecture in this country for the benefit of Russian prisoners of war.

The erstwhile princess obtained her freedom by convincing the immigration officials that she never had been in South Africa. A woman known as Princess. Africa. A woman known as Princess Radziwill once served a prison term in Capetown for forgery of Cecil Rhodes' name to a note.

GREEK KING MAY QUIT.

Mission Leaves Thursday for

ly to Chicago.

Returning East the commission will visit Philadelphia, New York and Bos-

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